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GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES

Scheme of Japan

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

The UNCTAD secretariat has received from the Permanent Mission of Japan the following communication concerning the extension of its GSP scheme for a period of ten years, beginning 1 April 1991, as well as measures related to the calculation of the ceilings:

> "... and has the honour to inform the latter that on 20 December 1990 the Customs Tariff Council, having reviewed the Japanese GSP scheme that was to expire on 31 March 1991, reported the necessity to make a further improvement in Japan's GSP scheme as explained in the attached note, 1/ and that the Government of Japan will take necessary measures to enforce the content of the report."

1/ See annex I.

GE.91-50062/9210A

READEX FICHE

Annex I

Further improvement of Japan's GSP scheme

On 20 December the Customs Tariff Council which has reviewed the Japanese GSP scheme after its expiry of 31 March 1991, reported the necessity to make the following improvement in Japan's GSP scheme. The Government of Japan will take necessary measures to enforce the content of the report.

Japan's GSP scheme which is to expire on 31 March 1991, should make the following improvement, bearing in mind its contribution to the export promotion and the export income of developing countries, and the requests from developing countries for its extension.

1. The effective period of Japan's GSP scheme shall be extended for another 10 years, until 31 March 2001.

2. (1) As for the calculation formula of the ceilings for the items whose imports are considered not to cause significant difficulties to the domestic industries, the base year for the ceiling calculation will be changed to 1989 from 1982.

(2) In addition, as a special measure for FY 1991, some ceilings shall be further expanded by either 50 per cent, 30 per cent or 10 per cent.

As a result of the above-mentioned measures, a total amount of ceilings will be expanded approximately by 37 per cent, to be 1.3 trillion yen ($US 9.63 billion).